

5/13/72

Dear Pearl,

I've so much new to do I can only acknowledge your 5/8, which awaited me on yesterday evening's return from an intensive trip. I have hours of tapes to dub and transcribe, they are important, I have extensive notes to type while fresh (mine is the world's most illegible handwriting), and I'm supposed to draft affidavits for the Ray habeas corpus proceeding.

Having been so intensively on other things, my mind is far from that of which you write. Future Shock, for example. Title?

I asked Jerry to phone Levine, but he was busy and considered it the wrong approach. I haven't had time but I've been intending to. That he has not responded to you is not explained by the fact that the book is not yet out, for one of the more obvious legal determinations that should at least suggest itself to him, whether or not he considers it proper or whether or not you want to do it is to seek an injunction. That means pre-pub. (I am not suggesting or encouraging this, but it has to occur to a lawyer.) Perhaps the best approach would be to ask his close personal friend to ask him why he has not responded to either of us.

I still must get to NYC soon, but haven't time or \$\$\$\$. It would be helpful if you could give me a brief precis of the things we discussed for me to take, so I won't forget. I can make a couple of efforts. When I get there.

Whether or not RD is pushing you, encourage completion and collection and freedom.

I know only too well the intrusion of thoughts of work into sleep. In fact, I dreamed the topic sentences of the 6th chapter of WHITEWASH and, sleeping naked, got out of bed and started writing that chapter that way. When I had enough on paper I put some clothes on and then wrote more. When I wanted to stop to think, I made a pot of coffee. I kept working until I had the whole chapter written, non-stop. And I began at 2 a.m.

Jerry was well when he was here two weekends ago. School should be about ending for the semester, which should give him more time that summer and its attractions will take. Nothing new on his piece of which I know.

In haste,